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CORE LIST

1228,
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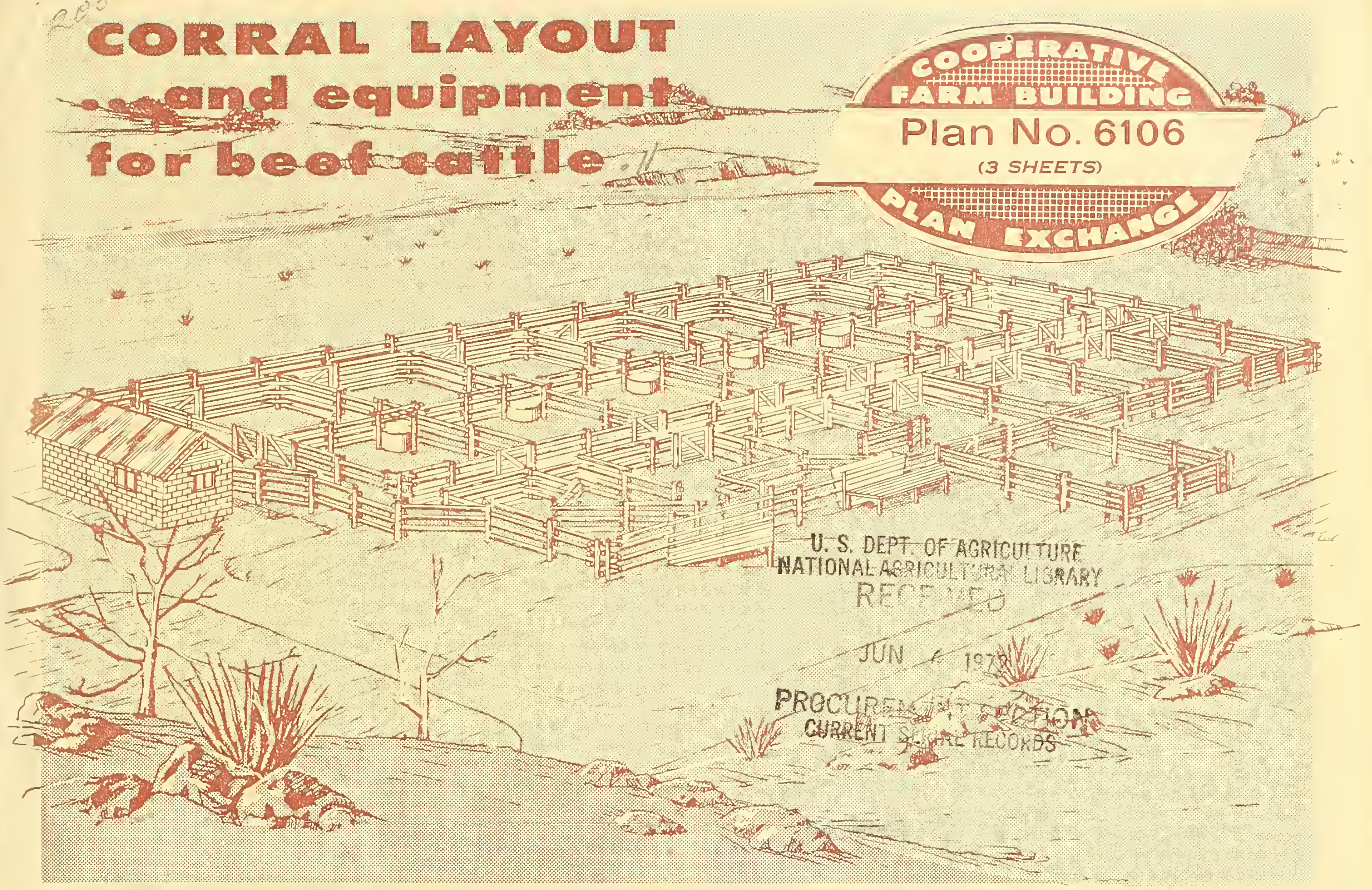
# CORRAL LAYOUT ...and equipment for beef cattle

COOPERATIVE FARM BUILDING
Plan No. 6106
(3 SHEETS)
PLAN EXCHANGE



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Good cattle-handling facilities are essential on a beef cattle ranch. Facilities for beef cattle need not be expensive nor elaborate, but should be built for convenience, economy, and serviceability. Strength is particularly important for facilities used by range cattle that are not accustomed to restraint and are handled infrequently.

The practicality of this plan was demonstrated through a cooperative effort of about 30 small ranchers in New Mexico. These ranchers combined to build a well-equipped, community corral. This corral served well for buying, selling, grading, and short term holding operations.

This plan provides 30- by 30-foot pens. Water is available in 17 of them. Each pen can accommodate a maximum of 45 animals. The number of pens can be increased or decreased in response to particular requirements.

In addition to holding pens, this corral affords these essential facilities: cutting area, animal lanes, large scales, permanent loading dock, working chute, headgate with side exit, and an office with storage area.

The holding corral should be located in a well-drained area with sufficient space near the corral to install a runoff-control facility. If the corral is built on sloping ground, remember that animals generally want to go up-hill and away from the sunlight. This is important in planning all the other operations as well.

The design illustrates double post and pole construction, with poles secured by No. 9 wire. This provides a very strong and sturdy corral fence. Other surplus material, such as old railroad ties or used power company poles, would make excellent substitutes. The gates and chute are constructed of rough-sawn 2 by 8 boards.

The office and storage building is block-on-slab construction with a metal roof. The scales are located beside the office.

The corner detail shows how corners are rounded to prevent cattle from bunching and to provide extra strength. The water tank is located at the rear corner of the pen away from the gate and alley in order to

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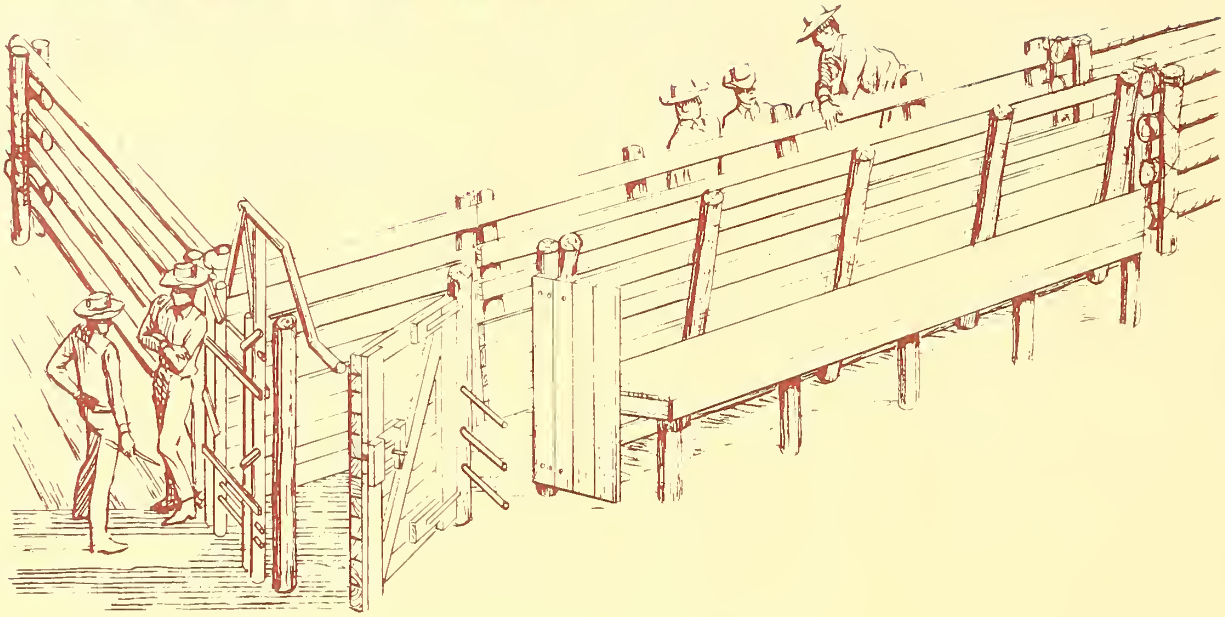
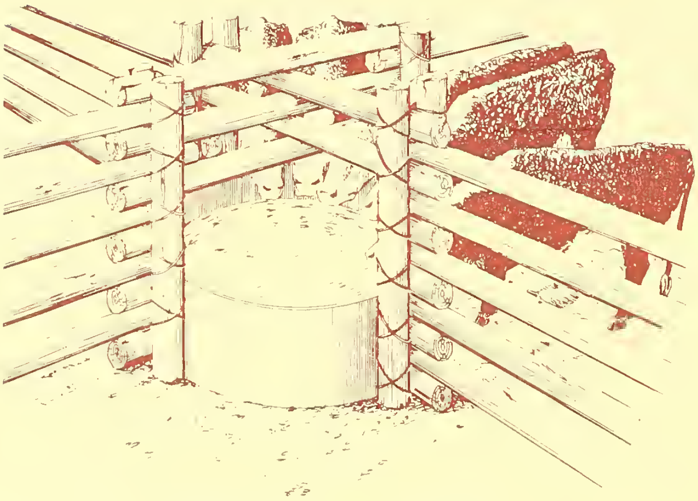
# construction features . . .



WORKING CHUTE

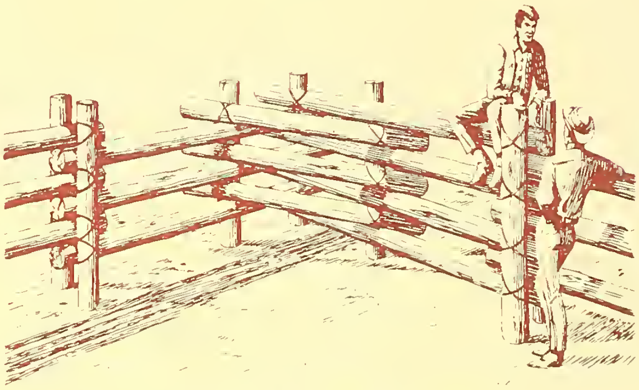


DETAIL AT WATER TANK

keep mud from the handling areas. A common tank serves four pens. Crossed logs over the water tank keep cattle from penhopping.

The working chute is long enough to hold several mature animals at one time. The chute has a sloping side to permit the passage of any size animal. Younger animals are less likely to turn around. The lower section of the chute is solid, with a gravel or concrete base for fast cattle movement and for prevention of leg injuries.

A "catwalk" built along the side makes driving cattle easier and causes less mud in wet weather.



TYPICAL CORNER VIEW

The end of the chute has two side gates. The first is a release gate; the second is a 2-foot service gate which can be used to approach the animal from the rear. Three bars are set across the chute between the doors to keep the animal in place and to speed the work of the operator.

The fixed headgate with side opening gate permits faster working and reduces injury to cattle, because they can back out of the headgate to leave by the side.

The permanent loading chute is built at an angle to the corral fence because cows load better this way.

*Working drawings may be obtained from the extension agricultural engineer at your State university. There may be a small charge to cover cost of printing.*

*If you do not know the location of your State university, send your request to Agricultural Engineer, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250. He will forward your request to the correct university.*

ORDER PLAN NO. 6106, CORRAL LAYOUT AND EQUIPMENT FOR BEEF CATTLE.

**Agricultural Engineering Research Division AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE**

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